

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INSE-00 L-03 OES-07 CG-00 DOTE-00
SNM-02 SAB-02 TRSE-00 DEAE-00 /029 R

DRAFTED BY A A P N;DWAGNER/JLP X22006 7/1/77
APPROVED BY ARA/PAN ENDEAU
SCG:LTC T.DEMING (DRAFT)
INS(MIAMI)JELDRID (DRAFT)
L/OES:JBAILLY (DRAFT)

-----029386 012036Z /73

P R 011851Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY
INFO COMMANDANT COAST GUARD WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PLOS, EWWT, PN

SUBJECT: LADY MARK (MARIJUANA SMUGGLER)

REF: PANAMA 4479

1. THE CREW OF THE LADY MARK WERE REPATRIATED ON JUNE 17, 1977, FROM MIAMI, FLORIDA, TO BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA. THEY DEPARTED THE UNITED STATES AT 1650 HOURS ON BOARD AVIANCA FLT 1031, WICH FLEW NON-STOP TO BARRANQUILLA. THEY WERE RELEASED FROM THE CUSTODY OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NAT URALIZATION SERVICE AFTER A HEARING FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN THE TAMPA, FLORIDA, DISTRICT COURT ON JUNE 10. THE COURT DIRECTED THAT REPATRIATION PROCEEDINGS GO FORWARD UNLESS THERE WAS A REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION FROM
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PANAMA. WHEN NO REQUEST WAS RECEIVED, INS HAD NOALTERNATIVE BUT TO COMPLY WITH THE COURT ORDER.

2. THE LADY MARK IS AT THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD STATION AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA. ITS CARGO HAS BEEN DESTROYED, EXCEPT FOR A SMALL QUANTITY RETAINED AS EVIDENCE. THE USG PLANS TO BEGIN FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE

SHIP AND, IF THE COURT APPROVES, WILL SELL THE SHIP IN

ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF 19 USC 1613. WE UNDER-
STAND THAT THE PANAMANIAN CONSUL GENERAL IN MIAMI HAS
INFORMED THE COAST GUARD THAT THE GOP HAS LIENS OF
\$4,170.96 AGAINST THE SHIP. 19 USC 1613 OUTLINES THE
PROCEDURE FOR THE SALE OF A SHIP AND STATES THE PRECE-
DENCE OF CLAIMS, TO WIT, COURT COSTS, COST OF HOLDING
THE SALE, COST OF SEIZURE, AND OTHER ACCEPTABLE CLAIMS.
WE HAVE EXPLAINED THIS TO THE LEGAL COUNSEL OF THE PANA-
MANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

3. FYI: THE COAST GUARD UNOFFICIALLY ESTIMATES THE
VESSEL'S VALUE AT \$65,000. IT HAS A CLAIM AGAINST THE
VESSEL OF \$1250 FOR FUMIGATION, \$1719 FOR THE DETENTION
OF THE CREW, AND \$30 FOR CREWS' MEDICAL EXPENSES, TOTAL
\$2999. THE CRITERIA FOR ALLOWABLE CLAIMS BY OTHER
PARTIES IS NARROW, BUT WE ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT ANY
REASONABLE CLAIMS FROM PANAMA CAN BE ACCOMMODATED TO THE
LIMIT OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE. THE BALANCE OF THE
PROCEEDS REMAINING WILL GO TO THE U.S. TREASURY. END
FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARIJUANA, DRUG TRAFFIC, SHIP DETENTION, SMUGGLING, REPATRIATION, CREW LIST, LADY MARK M/V
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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